

2025 MAR 18 AM 11:01

CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH

Argument Against Measure ____

Arguments in support or opposition of the proposed laws are the opinions of the authors.

The current City Ordinance provides for a Community Review Board to safeguard children from exposure to library books and/or materials that may be considered lewd or pornographic.

The Community Review Board, consisting of 21 parents and members, will be dedicated to evaluating books and/or materials for obscene or sexually explicit content prior to purchase or being placed in areas where children may access.

If this measure passes, those safeguards will be eliminated. Instead of community input, a single unelected individual with no oversight will decide what books are appropriate for children to access. Instead of a transparent, community-driven process, the authority to determine what is appropriate for children will be given to the Director of Community & Library Services.

Voting NO on this measure preserves community input and parental control over what our children are exposed to in the libraries. The existing law ensures that the public retain control over book selections, keeping access to quality literature that supports academic growth without exposing children to inappropriate content.

The existing law DOES NOT ban books since not a single book has been removed from the Library collection, rather certain books have been relocated to the age-appropriate sections of the Library, just like the Parental Guidance system for motion pictures with an All Access Card available with Parental consent. This is about choice. The community deserves a voice in shaping their children's education and maintaining the right to instill values that align with their community values, especially in public libraries paid for by the Huntington Beach residents and taxpayers.

Vote NO on this measure to protect our children from access to inappropriate books and materials at the libraries.

The undersigned or authors of the Measure direct cm ~~primary~~ argument against the ballot measure at the Special Election for the City of Huntington Beach to be held on June 10, 2025 hereby state that such argument is true and correct to the best of (his/her) knowledge and belief.

Signed: Patrick J. Burns
Name, Title Patrick J. Burns, Mayor

Date: 3-17-2025

Signed: Casey McKeon
Name, Title Casey McKeon, Mayor Pro Tem

Date: 3-17-2025

Signed: Gracinda Ride Larra-VanDerMark
Name, Title Councilwoman

Date: 3/17/2025